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56/10/31 Sheppard case informer here; her story falters

Cleveland News

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Sheppard Case Informer Here; Her Story Falters

A 19-year-old girl whose "fantastic" vice story caused a reopening of the investigation of the Marilyn Sheppard murder case was brought to Cleveland today to face the facts.

Assistant County Prosecutor Saul S. Danaceau, who took a statement from the Cleveland girl in a West Virginia institution, said her "story did not check out."

The prosecutor said he would now confront the informer with discrepancies in her story "and see what happens."

"I expect to have this matter cleared up very soon," said Danaceau.

The girl was reported to have given information that Dr. Samuel Sheppard assaulted a man he found in his home, July 3, 1954, and then slugged his wife. The story was labeled "fantastic" by Cleveland homicide detectives who worked on the case.

Dr. Sheppard, serving life for the killing, said at the penitentiary that he did not believe the story and it was regrettable that it reflected on his "good wife's name."

The prosecutor asked the Cleveland homicide bureau to run down and check this

strange story, but Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze said he would not permit police to be used for this purpose because of a manpower shortage and because Cleveland had not been paid \$15,000 by Bay Village for the original investigation of the crime.

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